Ministry had identified about 150 such schemes in the Budget which needed to be axed to save about Rs. 1,000 crores as reported in 'India Today' dated 18th March, 1987; and

(b) if so, the names of such schemes, the amount spent on each one of them during each of the last three years and final decision taken in this regard?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE DEPARTMENT OF EXPENDITURE IN THE MINISTRY OF FINANCE (SHRI B. K. GADHVI): (a) and (b) The report is incorrect.

Strength of NCC Cadets

219. DR. MOHD. HASHIM KIDWAI: Will the Minister of DEFENCE be pleased to state:

(a) what is the present strength of NCC cadets in the country;

(b) what had been their number during the last three years;

(c) whether there has been any increase or, decline in the strength of NCC cadets; and

(d) what steps Government are taking to popularise NCC?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE DEPARTMENT OF DEFENCE RESEARCH AND DEVELOPMENT IN THE MINISTRY OF DEFENCE (SHRI ARUN SINGH): (a) The enrolled strength of NCC cadets as on 31st March, 1986, was 10,11,166.

(b) The number of NCC Cadets during the last three years was as under:—

1983-84	9,82,513
1984-85	10,00,921
1985-86	10,11,166

(c) There has been a marginal increase in the strength of NCC cadets during the last three years.

(d) A number of steps have been taken to popularise the NCC. The notable among them are the following:—

(i) To enable NCC cadets to obtain commission in the Armed Forces, some seats have been earmarked for them in the Service Academies.

(ii) Weightage is also given in their recruitment into the three Services, the Coast Guard and also in the Central Industrial Security Force, Indo-Tibetan Border Police and the Police in some States.

(iii) A number of concessions have been given by both the Central and State Govts. to the NCC cadets for admission in professional institutions.

(iv) Universities have been requested to introduce the NCC as an optional/additional subject in their curricula so that the cadets get due credit for joining the Corps.

(v) A number of adventure activities, viz., hang-gliding, para-sailing rock climbing, trekking and monuntaineering etc., have been introduced in the NCC.

(vi) The NCC has a regular exchange programme with a number of countries under which the cadets get a chance to visit them.

A High Level Committee has been set up by Government recently to review the working of the NCC. The Committee will address itself to the existing scheme of incentives to the cadets and make their recommendations.

Telecast and broadcast of Haj celebration

219. DR. MOHD. HASHIM KIDWAI: Will the Minister of INFORMATION AND BROADCASTING be pleased to state whether there is any proposal under Government's consideration to telecast and broadcast Haj